



# ILCC News

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[www.state.il.us/lcc](http://www.state.il.us/lcc)

## Gov. Blagojevich expands programs in wake of crash that takes five young lives

In addition to Kendall County kickoff, **TrAIL** and **Don't Be Sorry** launched in Whiteside, Carroll, and Jo Daviess counties

In response to the tragedy that took five young lives in Oswego this past February, Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich expanded the state's effort in cracking down on those who provide alcohol to minors by introducing the **TrAIL (Tracking Alcohol in IL)** and **Don't Be Sorry** programs to Kendall County.

"Like any parent, my top concern is making sure my kids are safe," says Gov. Blagojevich. "I can't imagine the pain and anguish of parents who lose their children. What happened in Oswego last month was devastating, not just for the families impacted, but for the entire community. Their tragedy should motivate all of us to do everything we can to make sure our young people are safe, and to help them make good decisions. The **TrAIL** program does that by bringing together state resources to crack down on those who help minors get alcohol and helping reinforce the responsibility we all have prevent underage drinking."



Illinois State Police Region II Commander Marc Maton (here being interviewed by Quad Cities television) was just one of the many law enforcement personnel who attended the **TrAIL** launch in northwest Illinois this past December.



This latest expansion of **TrAIL** follows its December 2006 debut in the northwest Illinois counties of Whiteside, Carroll, and Jo Daviess. This past March, four people were subsequently arrested in the Jo Daviess town of Stockton after a double fatality car crash due to underage drinking. "The **TrAIL** Program was invaluable in assisting the Stockton Police Department in apprehending the individuals

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## A Letter from the Chairman

**W**ith several recent tragedies serving as a backdrop, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission (ILCC) has been seriously addressing the issue of underage drinking through the development of original material, new initiatives, and fresh awareness campaigns.

For example, our cover story on **TrAIL (Tracking Alcohol in Illinois)** describes how ILCC special agents are augmenting local law enforcement efforts in eight Illinois counties by assisting in the tracking of alcohol purchases when underage drinking leads to serious consequences.

By all accounts, the TrAIL Program has been a success. It has also confirmed what many of us already suspected: The vast majority of these incidents are **not** the result of illegal sale of alcohol to minors by Illinois liquor license holders; in fact, it was the usually the underage drinker's friends or family who provided the alcohol.

Of course, this does not mean **all** licensees are doing their job. If just one establishment sells to minors, you can be sure teenagers in this community will spread the word to all their friends. That's why ILCC special agents will continue to conduct regular compliance checks—held in conjunction with local law enforcement and the Illinois State Police—featuring youths hired to purchase the alcohol. In addition to checking for underage sales, law enforcement personnel are split into teams to check for compliance with all Liquor Control Act requirements, inspect video games and cigarette packages for state seals, and enforce all criminal laws.

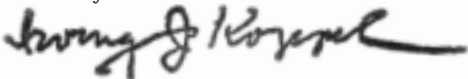
The ILCC also conducts statewide compliance checks on tobacco retailers, and provides grant opportunities for communities to perform their own checks on underage tobacco sales.

Ultimately, though, the **entire** community is responsible for keeping alcohol and tobacco out of our teens' hands. We need to educate our children, our parents, and our alcohol sellers/servers on the consequences of underage drinking. If we work together as partners, our efforts will be much more effective.

With this in mind, the Liquor Commission is pleased to make available a variety of materials free-of-charge. Throughout this issue of *ILCC News* are instructions for ordering targeted materials, which may to be distributed in your schools, park district facilities, drinking establishments, or any other place you deem appropriate.

**Remember, in the final analysis, it is your responsibility as a retailer to keep alcohol out of our children's hands. Minor drinking is a major problem. We will continue to test every license holder, and those who fail will be held accountable.**

Sincerely,



Irving J. Koppel  
Chairman  
Illinois Liquor Control Commission



## ILCC News

**Article suggestions are welcome!**

The Commission welcomes your input to enhance the ILCC News publication. If you have a suggestion for an article topic or a helpful hint to share with other licensees, please contact the Commission's Chicago Office.

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responsible for providing the alcohol," says Detective Sergeant La Don Trost of the Stockton Police Department.

In addition to the above mentioned counties, the TrAIL protocol has also been activated in Kane, McHenry, Sangamon, and Jackson counties. The program, funded through a \$100,000 traffic safety grant from the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), is designed to target alcohol sources in underage drinking-related fatalities and injuries. To complement the increased law enforcement in these counties, the Governor also expanded the state's **Don't Be Sorry** campaign to educate teens, parents, and liquor retailers on the consequences of underage drinking and providing alcohol to minors.

"Underage drinking affects us all; whether you are a parent, teenager, or business owner," says House Minority Leader Tom Cross, who represents the Oswego area. "Modeling responsible behavior will go a long way toward keeping our kids safe."

Adds State Senator Linda Holmes: "TrAIL enables law enforcement to pool their resources and serve Kendall County's ever-burgeoning population at an even higher level of response. With state and local law enforcement working together, the residents of one of the ten fastest growing areas in the United States can be assured that those who provide alcohol to minors will be held accountable."

Under the TrAIL program, a special investigation is conducted when underage alcohol consumption is suspected in an incident—such as a car crash, underage drinking party, alcohol

poisoning/overdose, sexual assault or other event—that results in injury or death. If the above criteria are met, first responding officers will call a 24-hour hotline number to deploy a TrAIL investigator, who will assist in the collection of evidence and determine where the alcohol was purchased or served.

"I feel TrAIL is another resource that will aid in the apprehension and education of alcohol use and abuse by children," says Chief Dwight Baird of the Oswego Police Department. "I hope that this will help children make better decisions before alcohol use becomes a problem. We want adults to know that if you sell or provide alcohol to a child, you will be caught and prosecuted. Zero tolerance is our practice."

"TrAIL gives us another tool in our arsenal to combat underage drinking," says Kendall County Sheriff Richard Randall. "For example, we can call upon special agents from the Liquor Commission to conduct inspections of licensed liquor establishments without a warrant."

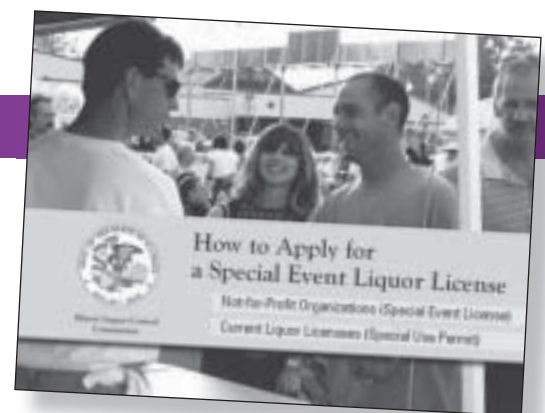
In the end, Kendall County State's Attorney Eric Weis believes TrAIL will aid his office in the prosecuting of cases. "By assisting law enforcement in the gathering of evidence quickly, we increase the likelihood of making the charges stick."

For more information about underage drinking, and to order educational materials, visit [www.DontBeSorry.org](http://www.DontBeSorry.org) on the web.

## Order your FREE Special Event DVD

As the weather finally begins to turn warmer, outdoor special events featuring alcohol will soon become more prevalent throughout our state. If you are the person responsible for organizing this type of event, the Illinois Liquor Control Commission has made available a DVD entitled *How to Apply for a Special Event Liquor License* to make the process of getting your liquor license less intimidating.

Designed to assist both current licensees (which requires a Special Use Permit) and non-profit organizations (Special Event License), this short video presentation provides step-by-step instructions and tips on how to stay within the law.



To order your FREE copy, please visit our website at [www.state.il.us/lcc](http://www.state.il.us/lcc) and click on the "FREE Special Event DVD" link, located on the right side of the screen. If you have any additional questions regarding the licensing process, please call 312.814.2206.



## Use electronic system to pay your Illinois withholding online

Illinois business taxpayers are the first in the nation to use the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) Online for state withholding tax payments. The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Illinois Department of Revenue have partnered in a pilot program that allows Illinois business taxpayers to make state withholding and federal tax payments at the same time through a single system.

After a one-time enrollment in EFTPS, business taxpayers can make Illinois withholding and federal tax payments using EFTPS Online. Existing EFTPS users can modify their enrollment profile to enable Illinois withholding tax payments. EFTPS is a free service that is easy to use, provides confirmation of payment instructions, offers a complete payment history and allows users to cancel payments before the tax due date. Additional benefits of the service include: accuracy, security, and convenience.



Since the program's December 2006 launch, Illinois taxpayers have made over 10,300 payments totaling over \$21.1 million using EFTPS Online. To enroll in EFTPS and make state withholding and federal tax payments, visit [www.eftps.com](http://www.eftps.com).

## Someone using indoor pyrotechnics on your premises?

### Make certain they have a license and a permit

Do you allow customers to use centerpieces with sparkler-type devices in them, or allow musical acts or other guests to use indoor fireworks, including propane flame effects, on the premises? If you do, make certain the person igniting the fireworks or propane, also called pyrotechnics, has a Pyrotechnic Operator license issued by the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). In addition, before anyone can use pyrotechnics within your premises, they must have a display permit issued by the local governmental authority.

Subsection 6-32(a) of the Liquor Control Act, 235 ILCS 5/6-32(a), states that “[a] retailers on premise consumption licensee may not permit the use of any pyrotechnic device within its licensed premises without the prior authorization of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. . . . Violation of this subsection (a) by any licensee or any employee or agent of a licensee is a Class 4 felony.”

How do you know whether the person has prior authorization of the Illinois State Fire Marshal? Make certain he or she has the proper Pyrotechnic Operator license issued by OSFM. OSFM issues three types of Pyrotechnic Operator's licenses: An Outdoor Professional License, a Proximate Audience license, and a Flame Effect license. If the person is going to use indoor pyrotechnics

within your premises, he or she must have a valid Proximate Audience license. If the person is going to use propane flame effects within your premises, he or she must have a valid Flame Effect license. OSFM maintains a list of authorized Pyrotechnic Operators on its website, [www.state.il.us/osfm](http://www.state.il.us/osfm), through its Fire Prevention Division.

In addition, the person must have a display permit issued by the local governmental authority to use pyrotechnics within your business. Before he or she can obtain a display permit, the fire chief of the local jurisdiction must have inspected the site and determined that the display can be performed in full compliance with the permitting rules implemented by OSFM, including, but not limited to, the premises being fully protected by an automatic sprinkler system.

If the fire chief of the local jurisdiction has not inspected your business for the display, if the operator does not have a display permit issued by the local governmental authority to perform a display within your premises, or if the operator does not have the proper OSFM Pyrotechnic Operator license, the person does not have prior authorization from OSFM to use pyrotechnics within your business premises.

# Play Ball!







## New licensed BASSET providers

### SEPTEMBER

McBride's Food  
and Beverage  
Village Market Place

### DECEMBER

Bakers Square  
Restaurant  
Chicago Grill on  
the Alley  
Hotel Sofitel  
Ruby Tuesday  
Village of Oswego

### JANUARY

Buffalo Wild Wings –  
Orland Park

## Roxanne Marie Muscia is selected as the Trainer-of-the-Quarter

By Lee J. Roupas, ILCC BASSET Program Manager



Roxanne Marie Muscia

This quarter the Illinois Liquor Control Commission's Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education and Training (BASSET) program has selected legal assistant and United States Navy Veteran, Roxanne Marie Muscia as the BASSET Trainer-of-the-Quarter.

Muscia wears many hats. Along with being a BASSET trainer for the last two years—and on top of a full-time job as a legal assistant—she is also a professional crochet instructor and website designer.

She enjoys working with servers, knowing she can train them to save lives. Says Muscia, "I believe that people who sell or serve alcohol need to understand what their responsibilities are; they need to know the early signs of intoxication and cut people off immediately."

During her BASSET classes, Muscia trains her participants in proper age-verification techniques and tells them, "Do not trust that someone is checking ID cards and making sure the ID card is the person presenting it." She insistently reminds them to beware of ID's being passed back from older siblings or friends.

Roxanne is the type of person who puts her military training discipline behind everything she does. With the little down time she has, she enjoys reading, playing racquetball and badminton.

## IMPORTANT: Watch for alcohol poisoning

Through adequate seller/server training anyone involved in handling alcohol is trained to check if a person is intoxicated or aware of the behavioral cues that occur as a result of intoxication.

It is important that alcohol consumption does not go to the extreme of overindulgence or drinking at a fast pace. By consuming large doses of alcohol, a person can get alcohol poisoning, which can be fatal.

After doing some heavy drinking a person can pass out. Servers and people around an intoxicated individual must be aware if someone is going to "sleep it off" or passes out. There have been cases where someone had a friend that they allowed to "sleep it off" and they never woke up. This is because the alcohol is working through the bloodstream where it can depress breathing and make the heart stop.

When these types of situations occur, it is important that you call for medical help immediately. Acting promptly and not taking chances can save lives.

### SIGNS OF ALCOHOL POISONING:

- Passing out.
- Semi conscious or unconscious state.
- Skin is cold, pale or may have a bluish color.
- Difficult or irregular breathing.
- Less than eight breaths per minute.
- Ten seconds or more between breaths.

### WHAT TO DO:

- Call 911 immediately.
- Watch the victim to make sure he or she is not choking on their vomit.
- Give the medics information pertaining to the symptoms and drinking behavior.

## Beware of alcohol abuse in your establishment

By Lee J. Roupas, ILCC BASSET Program Manager

There are two types of people found patronizing liquor establishments: 1) Those who want to consume a few alcoholic beverages and relax after work while remaining sober; 2) There are those who come with the intent of getting sloppy drunk.

They end up overindulging alcohol to the point it dulls their senses. It is a time for them to escape reality and drown out their sorrows. An intoxicated state will lower a person's inhibitions, cloud judgment, slow reactions, and hinder coordination and motor skills. When a person reaches this point of intoxication and begins to display inappropriate behavior or passes out, then it has gotten to the level of alcohol abuse.

Alcohol abuse is responsible for many problems in society. The cost is too great to families, communities and businesses. Over 600 lives are taken from Illinois roads because of alcohol abuse. It can take a toll on families, can lead to loss of employment and can cost someone their livelihood.

It is important for servers to prevent alcohol abuse and over service. Alcoholic beverages are meant to be enjoyed not abused or over-consumed. Servers must be aware of this at all times because the law states, "no one may serve or sell alcoholic beverages to an individual who is visibly intoxicated."

## Don't get caught serving minors, CARD HARD!

Order the "We Card Hard" pack

### DOOR DECAL

The door decal features the popular logo stating, "We Card Hard." Display the door decal on the front door of your establishment. Convenient stores can place them on cooler doors. It will remind your staff to "card hard" and send the message out to minors that they will be carded and their ID scrutinized.

### ID CHECKING BROCHURE

The new user-friendly "We Card Hard" brochure gives identification checking techniques to help spot fake or fictitious ID's. This brochure displays the features on a valid state of Illinois driver's license and an under 21 drivers license.

### POSTER

The famous ILCC slogan "We Card Hard" shows a stern-looking bouncer carefully checking information on a young woman's driver's license. This poster sends the message that your establishment "cards hard" and will not serve minors nor allow entrance in a liquor establishment.



For more information, or if you would like to order materials, please contact Lee Roupas at 312.814.0773 or email [lee.roupas@illinois.gov](mailto:lee.roupas@illinois.gov)

## Illinois Liquor Control Commission



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### Order your FREE ILCC materials today!

The following FREE Liquor Commission materials are available to all licensees by visiting the web at [www.state.il.us/lcc/IEmaterials.asp](http://www.state.il.us/lcc/IEmaterials.asp) or calling 312.814.4802:

- Illinois Liquor Control Act and ILCC/BASSET Rules and Regulations.
- "Happy Hour Law" and "Just the Facts" fliers.
- Alcohol "Proof of Age" and "Pregnancy Warning" signs.
- BASSET Program Brochure and Age-Verification Guide.
- "We Card Hard" decal and Liquor Licensee Employee Training Guide.

